

Zeus deploys to Bagram

By Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – The first laser integration system to detect land mines is deployed here for testing for future marketing to civilian and military organizations.

The Zeus system is a laser-generated, laser-based system explicitly designed to remotely neutralize surface laid landmines. It includes a high-power laser, beam director, operator's station and an all-support subsystem that are contained in a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle, according to a partner company in the development of the system, Sparta Inc., which is a systems engineering and advanced technology company. The Naval Explosive Ord-

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti

A grand opening...

Members of the Afghan National Army raise the flag of Afghanistan over Chatman Air Field in Khost May 7. The ceremony marked the opening of a new camp for ANA soldiers.

Army bids farewell to White in Myer ceremony

By Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A farewell ceremony marked the end of Thomas White's term as the 18th Secretary of the Army May 9 at Fort Myer, Va.

The Department of Defense announced April 25 that White submitted his resignation to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. The reason for White's sudden decision to step down was not given.

The White House announced May 7 that James Roche, who is currently the Secretary of the Air Force, was nominated as White's replacement. Roche now must be confirmed by the U.S. Senate to be the 19th Secretary of the Army.

It was Spring 2001 when White made his first speech as the secretary of the Army. In front of a group of senior noncommissioned officers, he first introduced the Army to his ideas of transformation and better business practices.

As a former Enron executive who specialized in getting companies to outsource services, one of White's goals was to get the

Army out of non-war-related business.

"The last two years have been a period of enormous importance for our Army and the country. The Installation Management Agency, Network Enterprise Technology Command and the Army Contracting Agency are examples of improvements to our business practices," White said during an intimate ceremony that was hosted by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki.

As a tag team White and Shinseki have both awarded countless soldiers for heroic acts and accomplishments, but this time White stood still while Shinseki pinned the Decoration for Distinguished Civilian Service Medal on him.

White received the highest award for civilian service in an auditorium filled with his family members, close friends, members of Congress and Pentagon personnel. In formation stood units from the 3rd U.S. Infantry (Old Guard), and the Army Band, "Pershing's Own," representing soldiers Armywide.

The soldier and his family is why White said he joined the Army team again after retiring as a brigadier general in 1990.

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World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



Searchers look for bodies in the Al Hamra housing compound.

U.S. worried about more al-Qaida attacks

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — President Bush said Tuesday that he wouldn't be surprised if al-Qaida were behind the suicide bombings in Saudi Arabia, and other U.S. officials said they were worried that the terrorist group might be planning new attacks.

The triple car bombings Monday night killed at least 21 people, including eight Americans and seven Saudis, authorities said.

Nearly 200 others were wounded in the blasts, including 17 Americans.

One State Department official said some of the wounded Americans are "in pretty bad shape."

U.S. and Saudi officials said it appears that the simultaneous attacks in the Saudi capital were the work of al-Qaida, the terrorist organization headed by Saudi exile Osama bin Laden.

Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah said Tuesday that there is "no place for terror" in his country and vowed to "destroy" the group responsible for the attacks.

Another Saudi official called the bombings "a declaration of war against Saudi Arabia."

The three residential compounds targeted included one used by an American defense contractor and one owned by a pro-Western Saudi billionaire.

U.S. officials said they are concerned about the possibility of more attacks, and on Tuesday the State Department ordered the departure of all nonessential U.S. personnel and their family members from Saudi Arabia.

The move covered personnel assigned

to the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh and the two consulates in Jeddah and Dhahran.

"We're very concerned about additional attacks," said a U.S. official. He declined to be more specific.

Bush said Monday's attacks were "very well-planned," and that the perpetrators would face "American justice."

"I can't say for certain it was al-Qaida yet, but I wouldn't be surprised if it was," Bush told reporters after touring a tornado-damaged town in Missouri. "The war on terror goes on."

An FBI team, meanwhile, was dispatched to Riyadh to conduct an investigation.

"What is to be learned from last night is that al-Qaida is still there and still capable of striking us — and we have to be vigilant," FBI Director Robert Mueller said.

The bombings also killed the nine suspected bombers, whose bodies were found at the scenes of the explosions, Saudi officials said.

Arriving in Riyadh on a previously scheduled visit, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell condemned the attacks, which he said bore the "fingerprints" of the al-Qaida terrorist network.

Touring one of the wreckage-strewn target areas, Powell said the attack had been well-planned and that the facilities obviously had been "cased."

The attacks prompted one of the strongest condemnations of terrorism ever by Saudi authorities, U.S. officials said. Among the Saudis killed in the attack was the son of Riyadh's deputy governor.

"This is a declaration of war against Saudi Arabia and against our society, and we will take on the terrorists and we will rid our society of them," Saudi Foreign Policy Adviser Adel al-Jubeir told CNN.

In a national address, Crown Prince Abdullah vowed to "destroy this small group" of terrorists and those who support them.

"God willing, after that, this group will not be able to stand up again," he said. "There is no place for terror, but there is a place for decisive deterrence against them and to any ideology that feeds them."



State Rep. Jim Dunnam, D-Waco, speaks with Texas Democrats during a Tuesday news conference at a hotel in Ardmore, Oklahoma.

Texas House paralyzed by Democratic walkout

AUSTIN, Texas — With action in the Texas House brought to a standstill, roughly 50 state Democratic representatives said they would remain in neighboring Oklahoma "as long as it takes" to block a Republican-drawn redistricting plan that could cost them five seats in Congress.

"There's 51 of us here today, and a quorum of the Texas House of Representatives will not meet without us," said state Rep. Jim Dunnam, the chairman of the House Democratic Caucus. He spoke with reporters outside a hotel in Ardmore, Oklahoma, where the Democrats have holed up.

The walkout has paralyzed the state House for two days. In Austin, Republicans exhibited a deck of cards bearing the lawmakers' pictures — similar to those issued to U.S. troops to help identify fugitive Iraqi leaders — and milk cartons bearing the images of the missing lawmakers. The Democrats are trying to thwart a GOP redistricting plan they say is being pushed by U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay, the majority leader in the U.S. House of Representatives and a Texan. Democrats call the plan "an outrageous partisan power grab."

They have gathered in Ardmore, just across the state line and beyond the jurisdiction of Texas state police, whom the House's Republican majority has ordered to bring them back to the state Capitol. "We're here in Ardmore, Oklahoma, because the real problems of Texas are budget problems, are school finance problems, are health care problems that are being cast aside because of a power play by Tom DeLay," Dunnam said.

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nance Disposal Technology Division and Sparta Inc are working to develop the system.

Zeus allows Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams to safely engage unexploded ordnance by allowing personnel to have a safe stand off distance of 150 meters, said Michael D. Bishop from Sparta Inc.

After actively testing on various training ranges like Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., a two-person team deployed here in March from Huntsville, Ala. with Zeus. They are training the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team to be the first to try out the developmental machine.

Right now the system is coined at approximately \$1.6 million apiece, said Bishop. The evaluations done here may affect the cost.

Zeus has many features such as its three different types of lasers that are powerful enough to allow personnel to stand at a safe distance while engaging a landmine, said Bishop. Plus protective goggles are used to



The Zeus.

filter specific frequencies of light. Zeus can also be mobilized on different military aircraft, including the CH-47 Chinook, C-17 Globemaster, and C-130 Hercules.

"It is leased here for one year to provide field support," said, Bishop, who is contracted with the United States Army Space Missile Defense Command.

If the military purchases the system, it will be in the contract for Sparta to train soldiers on how to utilize it, said Bishop.

Bishop says he thinks "the training will be instrumental in the final decision" of the military purchasing Zeus.

"We want to get soldiers trained in it. We don't want to put it where it won't help people.

We are confident about it," he added.

So far the featured baseline HMMWV was implemented on four missions in the two months it has been here.

"They were all test runs coordinated with the (705th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, Fort Polk, La.)," said Bishop.

"It has been extremely helpful. During that time it successfully engaged foreign munitions," said the Zeus team leader.

"You're putting precise amount of time and power to see how it's going to behave in the best environment (for landmines) we could find," said Bishop about trying out the mine detector in Afghanistan, a country with the title, "top fourth country with the most mines."

"The whole idea is to keep soldiers out of harm's way," he added.

Coordinator brings new ideas to MWR

By Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – As new projects begin to take shape around Bagram to facilitate more Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities, a new coordinator has arrived just in time to put these new plans into action and lead Bagram's MWR into the summer.

Boosting morale and getting servicemembers involved in MWR events are the two main goals Andrew Solomon, Bagram's new MWR coordinator, hopes to accomplish in his time here.

With three previous deployments as a coordinator "under his belt" and a prior service history, Solomon hopes his experience on both the military and civilian "sides of the house" will bring just the kind of coordination MWR here needs.

"My main job here is to improve the morale and recreation options for the servicemembers in theatre and to give them the little piece of home they've been missing," said Solomon. "I also know that the troops' missions here are important, and to accomplish them effectively they need to be physically fit. I'm hoping the new ideas I have and the new MWR facilities will compliment the troops' fitness needs."

Another part of Solomon's job as coordinator, is to oversee

the plans and projects started by Andy Finnerty, Bagram's previous coordinator and to make sure they are completed to MWR standard.

"Presently, there is a civic center and a new gym being erected behind Four Corners which are scheduled for completion very shortly," said Solomon.

"My job is to keep on top of the vendors and contractors to make sure the construction is going according to plan and that all of the equipment needed will be ready for delivery on time."

In addition to finishing up the ideas and projects of his predecessor, Solomon has ideas of his own he is hoping to incorporate into MWR's calendar.

"Throughout my life I've played numerous sports including international football, college basketball, and I work in the rear as a sport's coordinator for MWR," said Solomon. "MWR sponsored sporting events are a good way to boost troops' morale, promote unit comradery, encourage interaction with the coalition forces and keep servicemembers up on their physical training all at one time."

Solomon's emphasis on sporting events was seen by American and coalition forces Sunday, with the first force-integrated

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beach volleyball tournament on Bagram.

"My goal is to see enough troops participating in the volleyball tournaments to where we can have one weekly and a championship tournament monthly," said Solomon.

"With the opening of the new gym and basketball court, we will be able to facilitate other events such as indoor volleyball and basketball tournaments," said Solomon.

Aside from coordinating sporting events and overseeing new projects, Solomon is making sure servicemembers' Saturday nights are anything but boring.

"There is an event going on at Dragon Palace every Saturday night for the rest of the month each appealing to different cultural backgrounds and musical tastes," said Solomon.

"I am working on filling up next month's schedule as well, to make sure the troops always have something to do with their weekends," he said.

According to Solomon, a big part of MWR's success, is due to servicemember involvement.

"I am here to accommodate the servicemembers in any way I can," said Solomon. "If troops have ideas for an event I will do everything in my power to facilitate them, but it's up to them to be the brains behind the event and make it come together. It's the troops' show, not mine."

"It's like a fighting position," Solomon added. "You quickly build the foundation, enough to get started, and then when you have time, you fortify and perfect it. It's the same with MWR."

"As a coordinator I'm just the foundation. It takes servicemembers coming forward with ideas and plans to make things happen. Without them, the foundation's capabilities are very limited," he said.

For more information on MWR projects or activities, or if you have an idea for an event, call Andrew Solomon (318) 231-4649.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "The Man With Two Brains." Steve Martin is a world famous surgeon. He invented Screw Top, Zip Lock brain surgery. Trust him.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Showtime."



Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	Today	Thursday
Bagram:	Scattered showers H: 79F L: 50F	Mostly clear H: 81F L: 48F
Kandahar:	Dusty H: 88F L: 57F	Dusty H: 84F L: 54F
Kabul:	Scattered showers H: 77F L: 48F	Mostly clear H: 79F L: 46F
Uzbekistan:	Isolated showers H: 79F L: 52F	Mostly cloudy H: 80F L: 55F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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CJTF-180 Commander —

Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill

CJTF-180 Command Sergeant Major —

Command Sgt. Maj. Steven R. England

Public Affairs Officer —

Col. Rodeny Davis

Public Affairs Sergeant Major —

Sgt. Maj. Harrison Sarels

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Commander — Maj. William Mott

NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti

Editor — Sgt. W. Cullen James

Journalists — Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw,

Pfc. Christina Carde, Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke

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Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)

Bell scores nine of his 13 points in third quarter

DALLAS — Raja Bell was the unlikely hero for the Dallas Mavericks, who usually depend on their big three.

Steve Nash, Dirk Nowitzki and Michael Finley all had solid games for the Mavericks, but it was Bell who outshot the Sacramento Kings in a game-turning third quarter of a 112-93 victory Tuesday night.

Dallas took a 3-2 series lead heading into Thursday's Game 6 at Sacramento.

"That's what we needed," said Mavericks forward Raef LaFrentz. "We can't just rely on three or four guys to carry us. Raja was huge, and really helped us."

Bell provided a big boost for the suddenly re-energized Mavericks with four baskets and nine of his 13 points in the



Mavericks center Raef LaFrentz, left, rejects Scot Pollard's attempt for one of his five blocks in Game 5.

third quarter. That was one more basket than Sacramento managed while being outscored 29-10 in the period.

"Bell was our best player in Game 4, and that is not saying a whole lot, but he was really the only player that did well in that game," said Mavericks coach Don Nelson.

"He played well again tonight. He was being active and rebounding. He is physically able to do some things that our players can't do."

Albelin's seventh career playoff goal propels Devils

OTTAWA — The New Jersey Devils delivered the near-perfect game John Madden said they needed.

Madden, Tommy Albelin, Jeff Friesen and Jay Pandolfo scored as the Devils beat the Ottawa Senators 4-1 Tuesday night to even their NHL Eastern Conference finals series.

Game 3 of the best-of-seven series, that is tied 1-1, is Thursday night in New Jersey. The Devils are 6-0 this postseason at home.

Radek Bonk scored for the Senators, who appeared flat and failed to build off the momentum of Saturday's 3-2 overtime victory.

The Senators also allowed more than two goals for the first time in 12 games, ending an NHL playoff record streak they set in Game 1.

The Devils, who previously hadn't trailed in a series this postseason, improved to 9-3, while Ottawa fell to 9-4.

The loss was also the Senators' first in which they've scored this postseason. They were shut out in their three previous losses, once against the New York Islanders, and twice by Philadelphia.

Madden's call for New Jersey to play "a near-perfect game," came after the Devils were criticized for a turnover-filled performance in Game 1.

All three Ottawa goals in the opener came as a result of turnovers or second-chances.

Iowa State to name assistant Morgan coach

Iowa State searched high and low for a new coach during the last week before finding an assistant right at home to replace Larry Eustachy.

Wayne Morgan, who just finished his first season on the Cyclones' staff, will be introduced as

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2002\2003 NBA standings



Eastern Conference

Atlantic

(2) New Jersey	49-33
(4) Philadelphia	48-34
(6) Boston	44-38
(8) Orlando	42-40
Washington	37-45

Central

(1) Detroit	50-32
(3) Indiana	48-34
(5) New Orleans	47-35
(7) Milwaukee	42-40
Atlanta	35-47

Western Conference

Midwest

(1) San Antonio	60-22
(3) Dallas	60-22
(4) Minnesota	51-31
(7) Utah	47-35
Houston	49-39

Pacific

(2) Sacramento	59-23
(5) L.A. Lakers	50-32
(6) Portland	50-32
(8) Phoenix	44-38
Seattle	40-42



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coach at a noon ET news conference Wednesday, sources told ESPN.com Tuesday night.

Eustachy was eventually forced out after a report and photos of him partying on the campuses of Missouri and Kansas State were published in the Des Moines Register on April 28.

Eustachy agreed to resign after reaching a \$960,000 settlement with the university on May 5.

The news of Morgan's promotion comes on the sad day Chattanooga coach Jeff Lebo, considered the latest favorite for the job, turned down an offer from Iowa State.

Lebo did not say why he turned down the Cyclones' offer, but sources said he had reservations about heading to an area in which he had few recruiting ties.

He also had issues with moving his family to the Midwest.

Iowa State athletic director Bruce Van de Velde would not confirm an offer was made to Lebo.

Creighton coach Dana Altman was considered the favorite to replace Eustachy when Eustachy first resigned. But Altman withdrew his candidacy last week and is on the

verge of signing a 10-year contract to remain Creighton.

Fresno State's Ray Lopes, who was expected to be interviewed by Iowa State, and Wyoming's Steve McClain also withdrew from consideration. Morgan, 52, spent 12 years as an assistant at Syracuse before becoming coach at Long Beach State in 1996.

He was 91-84 in six seasons with the 49ers. At Iowa State, Morgan will retain assistant Bob Sundvold but won't keep assistant Steve Barnes, who was suspended by the university for allegedly making threatening remarks against school and athletic officials in a telephone call to a player's parents.

Barnes has denied making any such remarks.

Morgan's hiring should quell most of the talk of players leaving the program.

Sources said he still has to convince freshman Adam Haluska to stay. Iowa State also has eligibility problems.

Guard Tim Barnes and forward Jackson Vroman are academically ineligible but could regain their eligibility this summer.

Morgan is expected to keep the incoming recruiting class intact, including the three Massachusetts prep players — guards Will Blalock and Curtis Stinson and forward Reggie George — he was instrumental in signing.

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"We came back to the Army two years ago for only one reason, to give something back to the institution that changed my life and gave so much to me," White said.

The Residential Communities Initiative, which uses commercial contractors to improve family housing, was one accomplishment White listed. "By 2007 we will have contracts in place to provide over 72,000 new or refurbished homes to Army families stationed in the United States," he said.

"We are transforming concurrently with winning the global War on Terrorism. It ain't the 'shock and awe' of the operational plan that wins wars, it's all about having the best soldiers," White said, which was followed by thunderous applause from the audience.

When White came on board, the Army was in the process of transforming under the vision of Shinseki. But the chief told the audience members that White reinforced his efforts to bridge the operational gap between the rapidly deployable lighter forces and the later arriving heavier forces.

"He [White] fought to increase the Army's momentum in its advance toward the objective force and the future combat system, and he worked tirelessly with Congress to improve housing, pay, and education for soldiers and their family members," Shinseki said.

Two tours in Vietnam and the War on Terrorism are bookends to a career that spans over 36 years and makes White a veteran of three wars, Shinseki said at the end of his 15-minute tribute to White.

White graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1967 and joined the ranks of the Army's officer corps.

The former cavalry officer closed out his Army career holding his grandson, Thomas E. White IV, and watching the Army Band march away playing "The Army Goes Rolling Along."



kevin_kilgore@hotmail.com

By Kevin Kilgore

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